

# **2019-2020 Small Game Hunting Prospects**



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# Introduction

Thanks for your interest in the world of small game hunting! Missouri Department of Conservation produces this report to help small game hunters across Missouri learn more about the game they pursue, factors that affect the presence and abundance of game, and where to hunt various wildlife. Small Game Hunting Prospects blends the results of population trend surveys, information from field staff, and introductory information on small game species, their management, and hunting tips.

Small Game Hunting Prospects is updated annually and covers a variety of small game species and highlights Department conservation areas statewide where they can be found. To find huntable conservation areas not featured in Small Game Hunting Prospects, you can search the **Conservation Area Atlas**.

Sections include profiles of popular small game species, a species spotlight, and a listing of recommended small game conservation areas around the state. Species profiles include information on life history, habitat management, recommendations on how to get started, and hunting tips and tricks. The recommended small game conservation areas table lists conservation areas where hunters can expect a reasonable chance to harvest the small game species identified.

Our intent is that new and seasoned hunters alike will use this resource to learn more about the game they hunt and try out a new hunting spot. For season dates, limits, permit information, and a list of areas with nontoxic shot requirements, please see the **2019 Missouri**

**Hunting and Trapping Regulations** booklet or the **2019 Migratory Bird Hunting Digest**.

For technical assistance regarding small game management, contact your local **Private Land Conservationist**.



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# About Doves

Missouri is home to three species of dove that are legal to harvest during the state's dove hunting season. Mourning doves are the most common species found statewide, but hunters may also encounter white-winged doves or Eurasian collared-doves. White-winged doves are common to southwest states and Mexico, and Eurasian collared-doves have arrived in Missouri recently and are increasingly common, especially in urban areas and grain-handling facilities.

Mourning doves can be found throughout the state and are often abundant, using both wild and planted food sources. Doves are sensitive to hunting pressure and weather, which can create a situation where doves are abundant one day and gone the next.

## Getting Started

Dove hunting is as simple as finding a location where doves are congregating and feeding. Harvested wheat stubble or corn silage fields, ponds with exposed banks and weed cover, and harvested sunflower fields are all excellent locations to target. Besides a good location, all you need to hunt doves is a shotgun, plenty of shells (#7 ½ or #8 shot), camo clothing or blind material for concealment, and a bucket or shooting stool to sit on. Eye and ear protection is recommended as well. Scout the field a day or two before the season opens and observe how the doves enter and use the field. Set up along a flight path in a spot that offers concealment but still allows you to see incoming birds. Decoys, including motion wing decoys, may coax birds in closer.

To find a conservation area near you, check out our **dove map**.



Small Game Hunting Prospects



*Mourning Dove*



*Eurasian Collared-Dove*



*White-winged Dove*

# DOVE

Mourning  
White-winged  
Eurasian Collared-Dove



*Mourning Dove*

## Tips and Tricks

Increase your chances of success by hunting with a shotgun that has an open choke. Cylinder and improved cylinder chokes are good choices as they create a wider shot pattern with an effective range of 30-35 yards. More constrictive chokes such as modified and full are better for long-range shots but require better accuracy at close range and will often result in having little usable meat left due to the tighter shot pattern.

### IF YOU HARVEST A BANDED DOVE

Please Report It!

**1-800-327-BAND or [reportband.gov](http://reportband.gov).**

We just want the ID number –  
you keep the band!

## Dove Status Report and Research

Missouri's 2019 roadside mourning dove survey showed a statewide decrease of 11% compared to 2018. However, hunters in central, ozark, and southeastern regions of the state should see numbers above last year. Visit MDC's research website to read the complete report.

# About Rabbits

The eastern cottontail is the most common of the two-rabbit species that can be hunted in Missouri. Cottontails are well distributed throughout Missouri, and they provide fun, challenging hunting opportunities to novice and experienced hunters alike. Rabbits are prolific breeders, and numbers fluctuate from year to year and place to place. Rabbits become sexually mature at two to three months of age, so populations can quickly increase with good habitat conditions; however, despite being in all 114 of Missouri's counties, rabbit numbers have been declining since the mid-1950s due to loss of habitat. They prefer brushy cover, dense weedy areas, and thickets. Rabbits feed almost entirely on plants. Preferred foods include grasses, wheat, and white clover. During heavy snow cover, they eat buds, twigs, bark, and sprouts to survive.

Swamp rabbits are a little larger than cottontails with shorter, rounder ears, and the tops of the hind feet are reddish-brown. Swamp rabbits are localized to lowlands along stream banks and drainages of the Mississippi River in southeast Missouri. Hunters can recognize their presence in an area by their unusual habit of leaving droppings on logs and stumps. Swamp rabbits are good swimmers and can escape predators by diving into water and paddling away. Swamp rabbit numbers have been declining due to loss of lowland hardwood forests and swamps.

One reason for rabbit hunting's popularity is its simplicity. No decoys, game calls, camouflage clothing, or high-tech gadgets are needed to provide a sporting pursuit and a tasty meal. Some people use dogs (often beagles), while others merely walk the fields and meadows — either way, it's quite fundamental. Rabbits have a small home range and are reluctant to leave it. After flushing from cover, a rabbit will run away, but eventually circle around back to where it was initially found.



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## RABBIT Eastern Cottontail Swamp



### DID YOU KNOW....

Cottontail rabbits normally move about by hopping, but when frightened, they may freeze in place or try escaping by running as fast as 18 miles per hour.

## Getting Started

Rabbit hunting is as simple as finding a place with good brushy cover near feeding areas such as hayfields, well-managed pastures and woodlands, or no-till crop fields. Once you have found a place and acquired permission to hunt (for private lands properties), you just need to dress for the weather and have a shotgun or .22 caliber rifle. A 20-gauge shotgun loaded with #6 or #7 ½ shot is ideal, but any gauge shotgun will work. If you do not have a rabbit dog, or hunt with a friend or family member that does, consider getting one. Hunting with a well-trained dog is not necessary, but it often results in more productive hunts in addition to the companionship. Beagles are the classic breed used for rabbit hunting, but there are others.

## Tips and Tricks

Rabbits are generally more active during the early morning and late-afternoon hours, so target these times. However, rabbits will move during the middle of the day, especially on sunny days after a cold snap. Target southern and southwest facing slopes when hunting these conditions.

# About Quail

Known simply as “quail” or “bobwhite,” the northern bobwhite can be found in every county in Missouri. Bobwhites are so named for the male’s cheery call issued from fenceposts or other elevated perches in late spring and through summer. Bobwhites are ground-nesting birds and lay clutches of 10-14 eggs in a nest at the base of a grass clump. Chicks hatch fully feathered and mobile and immediately begin hunting insect prey, which they depend on for rapid growth.

Quail need habitat consisting of grassy/weedy areas for nesting, roosting, and raising broods; well-distributed patches of brushy cover for loafing and escaping predators; abundant food resources; and enough interspersed patches of bare ground to facilitate movement and foraging. Quail chicks require lots of insects, spiders and other invertebrates to support their rapid growth. Few bugs equal few bobwhites.

In mid-autumn, bobwhites assemble into coveys of 10 to 15 birds and generally eat seeds. Annual mortality is high, and most bobwhite young live less than a year. The quail’s high reproductive capacity counter balances this high mortality rate, and bobwhites are capable of rapid population increase when habitat conditions are favorable.

## DID YOU KNOW....

**Male bobwhites may incubate up to 25% of the nests in any one year, giving the female time to lay another clutch.**

## Tips and Tricks

Don’t overlook large grassland-dominated landscapes with little mature tree cover or crop land. As long as the cover is comprised of an abundance of forbs (broad-leaved plants), with some grasses and not too thick, and has some shrubby cover, quail are likely using it. To gage if the cover is too thick for quail, imagine tossing a softball (underhand like a pitcher) into the cover. If the softball ‘sticks’ it is too thick and likely will hold few quail. If the ball bounces and rolls, even for only a few feet, the cover is much more suitable for quail.



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# BOBWHITE QUAIL

*Northern Bobwhite Quail*



## Getting Started

Bobwhites can be found on many conservation areas across the state. While many of these areas provide quail hunting opportunities, several are managed with a focus on quail. For more detailed information about an area, visit the Department’s **website**.

A lightweight, fast swinging shotgun works well. Most hunters use size #7 ½ or # 8 shot and an open choke. A good bird dog, or two, aids tremendously

in finding bobwhites and adds to the enjoyment of the hunt. In fact, many quail hunters enjoy the dog work even more than the challenging shooting. Although the use of dogs increases the likelihood of encountering quail, a recent study in Kentucky found that even well-trained dogs may only find 30% of the wild quail coveys present. When possible, work as much of the cover with the wind in your face as this will reduce the chances of dogs accidentally “bumping” birds. Don’t be in a hurry, give the dogs ample time to cover the ground.

# About Frogs

Bullfrogs and green frogs look similar but are easy to tell apart from other frogs in Missouri, due to their relatively large size at maturity. They prefer aquatic edge habitats that offer still, shallow water with aquatic and/or terrestrial vegetation. This provides both cover and food, such as insects and nearly any other small animal that will fit in their mouths. Ponds, lakes and river banks, wetlands, and other vegetated waterways are all great places to find frogs.

## **Frogs can be hunted in Missouri using many different methods.**

With a fishing permit, frogs may be taken by gig, trotline, throw line, limb line, bank line, jug line, snagging, snaring, grabbing, or pole and line. With a hunting permit, frogs may be taken by crossbow, pellet gun, or .22 or smaller caliber rim-fire rifle or pistol. With either permit they may be taken by hand, hand net, bow or atlatl. Frogs may be pursued during the day or at night with an artificial light. During a full moon frogs are typically more skittish because they feel more exposed, and are thus more difficult to approach. During a new moon it is usually easier to get closer to them. Because frogs are amphibious and must keep their skin moist, they spend more time in the water and weeds during the day and are generally less visible around the banks than at night. Whether they're hiding or not, their location is often given away by their assertive croaks.



**Green Frog**

## Tips and Tricks

Most frogs are likely caught with the use of a gig or by bare hands at night. For a little different experience, try fishing for them during the day. Simply use a long fishing pole, like a cane poll or crappie rod, with a short piece of fishing line and a small treble hook tied to the end. Attach a small piece of red cloth to the hook and dangle in front of the frog. Often temptation will get the best of the frog and it will strike at the cloth. The only thing left to do is set the hook.



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# FROG

American Bullfrog  
Green



*American Bullfrog*

## Getting Started

Public and private landowners typically do not manage for frogs. Instead, frog populations are often the result of management for another species such as waterfowl or fish. Frogs are also common in aquatic edge habitats not subject to management or maintenance of any kind. Waters with few to no predators will yield the best frog populations, which is why newer ponds or very old ponds are generally plentiful with frogs. Bullfrogs and green frogs can be found along nearly all waterways on Department conservation areas but especially on wetland areas and along rivers and lakes.

Rubber knee boots, or hip waders, a flashlight, a gig or net, and something to keep the frogs you harvest in is all that is necessary for a fun evening of frog hunting. Bullfrogs are ambush-style predators that will eat any live prey they can fit in their mouths, including insects, fish, mice, birds, and snakes! Focus on shallow water areas and mud flats along the margins of ponds, lakes and wetlands where cattails, willows, grasses and other aquatic vegetation is present.

# About Pheasants

Ring-necked pheasants were introduced to the United States from China in the 1880s and have become one of the nation's most popular game birds. Unlike many species not native to an area, pheasants have few negative impacts on native wildlife. Pheasants have been able to thrive in agricultural areas where some native species, such as prairie chickens, have not. Early agricultural practices including the planting of small grain crops, large native grass hayfields, and weedy crop fields provided excellent nesting and brood-rearing habitat for the birds. Intensification of agriculture and the loss of Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP, acres throughout the Midwest have led to a decrease in pheasant habitat across their established range.

Pheasant hunting requires little equipment and is a great way to spend time outdoors with family and friends. Well-trained bird dogs are an asset for hunting large, grassy fields, but a few hunters walking side-by-side across a field can also experience the explosive flush of a pheasant.

To bolster populations, wild pheasants from existing populations in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota were released from 1987-2000. A few areas, mainly in northern Missouri, continue to hold steady populations of birds. Pheasant harvest in Missouri peaked in 1990 with 24,479 hunters harvesting nearly 90,000 birds. In the 2016-2017 season, 7,433 hunters took just over 22,431 birds.

Landowners in Missouri's pheasant range can help populations by providing ample nesting and brood-rearing habitat. Native warm-season grass mixes and brome fields tend to provide good nesting opportunities, and as with bobwhite quail, diverse patches of mixed grasses, and forbs attract hundreds of insect species that pheasant chicks must have to fuel their rapid growth.



Small Game Hunting Prospects

## RING-NECKED PHEASANT

*Ring-necked Pheasant*



## Getting Started

Hunters may take pheasants statewide. This change was made 4 years ago because pheasants are already geographically limited in the state. And because harvest is restricted to male birds only, it does not impact the population. A hunting vest (preferably orange), shotgun, generally a 12 gauge, loaded with #5 or #6 shot, a comfortable pair of hunting boots, and a good dog is needed for an enjoyable day of pheasant hunting. Most hunters use a more constricted shot pattern for pheasant hunting than they do for quail. A modified or full choke is recommended.

Pheasants are most abundant in northwest Missouri and portions of northeast Missouri. Conservation areas with good populations of pheasants are few. For more detailed information on where to find pheasants, call the Department's **Northwest or Northeast Regional Office**. As always, be sure to obtain landowner permission prior to hunting private land.

## Tips and Tricks

Hunting into the wind with close working dogs while being as quiet as possible helps to keep birds from becoming nervous and flushing wild or running. This is especially important after the first week or two of the season.

# About Squirrels

In Missouri, hunters may pursue two species of tree squirrels — fox squirrels, called “red squirrels” by many, and eastern gray squirrels. Fox squirrels are the larger of the two species. They tend to be found near the edges of timber stands, in isolated woodlots and open woods without much understory, along timbered ridges and uplands, and even in hedgerows. Grays are more likely to occur in extensive tracts of forest and bottomlands, but it’s not unusual to find both species using the same area.

Gray squirrels are early risers and become active at sunrise, while fox squirrels tend to come out later in the morning and are active during mid-day. The activity of both species slows considerably in the mid-day hours on hot, humid summer days.

Gray and fox squirrels use both leaf nests and den cavities. Cavity nests are most often in the hollow trunk or large limb of a live tree, but squirrels will also use cavities in dead snags. Cavity nests are used more in the winter and during the spring reproductive period. These locations are warmer, more sheltered from weather and predators, and help keep the young protected. Leaf nests tend to receive more use in summer, perhaps because they’re cooler than den nests. Hunters should not shoot into leaf nests, and should avoid shooting squirrels peeking out of cavities where they are unlikely to be recovered.

Missouri’s squirrel season is long, running from late spring through late winter. Squirrel behavior and activity change throughout the year as they respond to differences in weather and food availability. Be observant and adapt your hunting according to what the squirrels are doing or eating.



***Fox Squirrel***

# SQUIRREL Eastern Gray Fox



## Getting Started

Those new to squirrel hunting should remember to move slowly through the woods, scanning the treetops for movement, and listening for the sounds of bushy tails jumping from limb to limb or cutting and dropping nut hulls. Upon finding a lot of fresh cuttings on the ground, find a comfortable spot nearby and sit down awhile — you’ll usually have a shot or two shortly.

A .22 caliber rifle or shotgun (preferably 410 or 20 gauge), is all the equipment required to be a successful squirrel hunter. No special clothing is required. The key is to be stealthy as you move through the woods.

## Tips and Tricks

Early-season squirrel hunting can be ‘fast and furious’, especially during years of good oak mast and hickory nut production. Squirrels can become preoccupied with the abundant food source, but the sound of snapping twigs or rustling leaves will quickly get their attention.

Move slowly and deliberately through the woods to avoid putting them on high alert. If discovered, and it will happen, find a well-

hidden spot and take a break for 20-30 minutes. This is often enough time for the squirrels to resume their feeding activity.

### DID YOU KNOW....

**Squirrels can find food buried beneath a foot of snow.**



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# About Rails and Snipe

Several rail species migrate through Missouri every year, including yellow, Virginia, sora, black, and king rails. Virginia and sora rails are the only two species that may be harvested, and sora is the most abundant of these. Rails are predominantly marsh birds and can be seen and heard on many wetland conservation areas lurking in thick vegetation. Rails are omnivores and eat a wide variety of plants, insects, snails, and crayfish with their long bill made for probing in moist soils.

The common snipe is aptly named, because it is common in Missouri's wetlands and soggy areas. This marsh bird uses its long bill to probe for insects, worms, and larvae that burrow in damp soil.

Rails and snipe are a challenge to hunt. When flushed, these birds only fly a short distance and dive back into vegetative cover. Once back on the ground, the birds run quickly and are very hard to flush a second time. During peak migration, sora rails are abundant and will react to loud sounds such as a car door slamming or single, loud hand claps. Sora rails have several calls including a descending "whinny," a "ker-wee" sound, and a call that sounds like "weep." Snipe calls are a repeated "chip." The call of the Virginia rail sounds like pig-like grunts, "kid-dik."

## Tips and Tricks

Hunting snipe is challenging, as they rarely fly straight and are quick to find cover. Hunting rails is a little easier as they tend to fly low and slow and in a much less erratic pattern. Either way, you need a good eye. It is rare to spot them while they are on the ground. When they flush, focus on the bird and not on your gun. Trying to aim the barrel is not a good thing to do when wing shooting and will all but guarantee a miss. Looking at your barrel to aim or gauge your lead will cause you to stop your swing and shoot behind or under the bird nearly every time.



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## RAILS AND SNIFE

Virginia Rail  
Sora  
Wilson's Snipe



*Virginia Rail*



*Sora*



*Wilson's Snipe*

## Getting Started

Rail and snipe hunting opportunities are very limited by weather, especially precipitation. Contact the area manager at the areas you are interested in hunting before making a trip.

A shotgun, preferably a 20 gauge, loaded with #7 ½ or #8 lead shot, #7 if using steel, and a pair of hip waders is all the gear needed to hunt rails and snipe. A Small Game Hunting permit and a Migratory Bird Hunting permit is required. If hunting on Department public lands, be sure to consult the **Migratory Bird and Waterfowl Hunting Digest** for a list of conservation areas requiring non-toxic shot.

### DID YOU KNOW....

A group of sora rails are referred to as an "ache," "expression," or "whinny."

# About Woodcock

A migratory species, American woodcock visit Missouri in the fall and spring on their way to and from their wintering grounds in the southeastern states. The woodcock is unique among Missouri's game birds in that it is classified as a shorebird, but spends nearly all its life in upland forests, forest edges, old fields and meadows. Look for woodcock during the fall hunting season in brushy thickets and bottomland timber during the day and in open fields where they roost at night.

Woodcock are often overlooked as a game bird in Missouri. Woodcock provide excellent sport when specifically targeted because they readily hold for bird dogs, they can be abundant during the peak of migration, and they are often found on Department conservation areas. Woodcock are also fun to hunt because they are tricky fliers that can test even the best upland gunner.

Woodcock season in Missouri begins mid-October and the best hunting during that time is in the northern part of the state. The first two weeks of November are the peak of bird numbers in south Missouri. Hunters should target brushy thickets in old fields, thickly wooded draws in agricultural landscapes, young timber cutovers, and bottomland timber. Savvy hunters will look for the half-dollar-sized white "splash" indicative of woodcock droppings to help narrow the search for occupied habitat.

## Getting Started

Conservation areas with suitable woodcock habitat can be found across the state. It is always a good idea to call the area manager or local wildlife biologist for tips on hunting locations and bird numbers in specific areas. The migratory nature of woodcock can mean that areas can fill up with birds seemingly overnight. On the other hand, strong cold fronts can also push birds out of an area just as fast.



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# AMERICAN WOODCOCK



### DID YOU KNOW....

Woodcock may consume their weight in earthworms in a day.

## Tips and Tricks

Hunting woodcock with a close-working bird dog, either of flushing or pointing breed, is highly recommended. A good bird dog, or two, greatly increases the likelihood of encountering birds. Paying attention to the dog's behavior can provide you with a few key seconds of warning of an approaching point or flush; which often means the difference between a successful or unsuccessful shot.

If hunting in the more open landscapes of northern or western Missouri, concentrate on brushy draws with adjacent grassland cover. The birds feed and loaf in the brushy draws/woodlands during the day and roost in the open grassy areas at night. Even though woodcock are considered to prefer early-successional forested areas, such as recent cut-overs or brushy old fields, don't overlook the more heavily timbered areas when hunting. During the fall migration, woodcock will also use areas of mature forest with a developed understory. Areas to focus on in the Ozarks of Missouri include woodland restoration sites and locations that have received timber harvest or timber stand improvement practices sometime during the previous 10 years.

# About Raccoons

Raccoons are a medium-sized mammal with a noticeable black mask over the eyes and a ringed tail. Males and females look alike, although males are heavier. Raccoons typically weigh between 6 and 25 pounds. They prefer timbered habitat near water and are also common sights in urban and suburban areas. They make dens in hollow trees, caves, rocky crevices, and abandoned woodchuck burrows, among other places.

Raccoons are omnivorous, meaning that they eat both plant and animal foods including fruits, berries, grasses, corn, acorns, other nuts, as well as crayfish, clams, fish, snails, and a wide range of insects, frogs, snakes, bird eggs, mice, squirrels, and rabbits.

The most popular method for raccoon hunting in Missouri is with dogs. Hunters release hounds at night to search for the scent of a raccoon. Once the dogs find the scent, they begin to bark and that lets hunters know they have found a scent trail and gives an indication of which direction the animal is headed. In most cases, the dogs trail the raccoon to a tree where the animal is feeding. Usually, the raccoon is located among the branches by its reflective eyes. A small caliber rifle is most popular to take raccoons after being treed with dogs.

Another method of hunting raccoons is with the use of electronic game calls. Since this is a daytime hunting method, only an electronic call and small caliber rifle are needed. Successful use of this method involves locating probable den sights such as hollow trees, large brush piles, or abandoned buildings. Raccoon fighting sounds and the sounds that imitate young raccoons are effective during this time. The hunter hides in a location near the call where they can watch closely for animals approaching the call or coming out of the den locations.



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# RACCOON



## Getting Started

Whether pursuing raccoons with dogs, the use of electronic calls, or trapping, success can be found nearly anywhere in Missouri where woods and water are in close proximity. Wooded stream corridors, large mature hedge rows and woody draws, and woodlots near crops fields are promising places to start. A good dog, or access to a friend with a good dog, spotlight, 22 caliber rifle, and good footwear, preferably hip waders if streams are present in the area you are hunting, is enough gear to get you started.



## Tips and Tricks

Raccoon hunting success is usually greater on warm afternoons in late winter following an extended period of cold weather. Bring along a GPS tracking device. This can save you a lot of time trying to find your way back to the truck and help keep you off property you may not have permission to hunt. Many hunters now use GPS tracking collars on their dogs as well.

# About Crows

Missouri is home to two species of crow- the fish crow and the American crow. American crows are, by far, the more common of the two and are found statewide, while the fish crow's range is limited to areas along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and a sliver of southwest Missouri. It is difficult to tell the difference between the two species by sight, but their calls are very different and can easily be distinguished. Both species may be hunted in Missouri.

American crows are a very adaptable species and considered one of the smartest birds in North America. They have a diverse diet consisting of fruit, nuts, grain, acorns, insects, carrion, small mammals, eggs, reptiles, and nestling birds. In winter, crows tend to be associated with agricultural areas and wooded habitats along rivers and creeks. While American crows are still relatively common in Missouri, most crow hunters agree that their numbers plummeted in the early 2000s when the West Nile Virus became established in the state, and populations still have not recovered to previous levels.

The 1940s, 50s, and 60s were the heyday of crow hunting, as it was a very popular sport during that time. Today, it's hard to find anyone who regularly goes afield after the "black bandits." Crows are considered a nuisance by many farmers, and because of this, access may be quickly granted to good crow hunting areas. Crow hunting can provide fast-paced action and many seasoned crow hunters describe it as addictive.

Because crows are so intelligent and have keen eyesight, it's imperative that hunters plan carefully and set up for success. Keep the number of hunters in your party to 2 or 3. Once you've chosen a spot to hunt, you should build a blind or find a good place to hide. Try to set up with the sun at your back to optimize your vision and keep you in the shadows.



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## CROW American Fish



### DID YOU KNOW....

Crows can deliberately change dialects to blend in. For example, often times different family groups or populations have distinct dialects and crows new to such groups will mimic the sounds of dominant members to fit in.

## Getting Started

The necessary crow-hunting gear to get started is minimal. You'll need a shotgun, plenty of shells, some camo, a call, and a stool. Nearly any gauge shotgun is suitable for crow hunting if shots are kept inside 30 yards. For longer distance shots a 12 or 20-gauge shotgun with high brass loads may be necessary. Shot sizes suitable for crows are #6, #7 ½, and #8.

Crows have excellent eyesight, so hunters should wear camouflage clothing that blends in to the area they'll be hunting. And don't forget to cover your hands and face with gloves and a mask – if not covered, glare from these features can alert crows to your presence.

## Tips and Tricks

The use of calls, either mouth calls or electronic calls, aid tremendously in attracting crows to your hunting location. Electronic calls use recordings of live crows to attract the attention of nearby birds.

# About Predators

Coyotes, red fox, gray fox, and bobcats are furbearing mammals and can be hunted during prescribed seasons. Unlike trapping, hunting these predators requires much less gear. Predator hunting can be done by the solo hunter or with a friend or family member. Extreme conditions in late winter keep prey numbers reduced and the cold temperatures keep predators on the move – this time of year can make for an exciting hunt. Coyotes, foxes, and bobcats are pursued for their valuable pelts, to alleviate depredation of domestic livestock, and for the sporting opportunity that they provide.

Coyotes are abundant and distributed throughout the state. They prefer brushy areas, edges of timber, and open agricultural country found in northern Missouri. Coyotes are most active during the hours of dawn and dusk. Coyotes rely primarily on a diet of rabbits and small rodents but may also eat seasonally-available fruits and berries such as wild plums, persimmons, and blackberries, as well as grasshoppers, snakes, and birds.

Red foxes occur statewide but are more abundant in northern Missouri. Habitat preferences and food habits are very similar to that of coyotes. Red foxes often live on the edges of small towns and within cities where they can avoid coyotes, their main predator.

Gray foxes occur throughout Missouri but are most abundant in Missouri's Ozarks and heavily forested areas in north Missouri. Food habits are also similar to that of coyotes and red foxes.

Bobcats occur statewide but prefer habitat that is thick and brushy. Second-growth timber stands with a lot of underbrush is perfect for bobcats. Food habits of bobcats are much like the canine predators but bobcats rely more heavily on sight for hunting than smell.



Small Game Hunting Prospects

## PREDATORS

Coyote  
Red & Gray Fox  
Bobcat



## Getting Started

When it comes to predator calling, most hunters already have most of the gear required to get started. Camo clothing that matches the terrain and protects you from the elements is important. Shotguns or centerfire rifles in .22 caliber are preferred. A reliable electronic game caller with animal vocalizations seems to be the most popular call, but predators can be called in with mouth calls that imitate rabbits or rodents in distress.

### DID YOU KNOW....

Coyotes can live up to 10 years in the wild and jump horizontal distances up to 12 feet.

## Tips and Tricks

Focus on areas of good habitat for small game. CRP fields, brushy draws or farmland, wetlands, and young timbered areas are all good locations. Choose areas where you routinely find tracks and target cold, calm days for hunting. Make as little noise as possible from the time you arrive until you have settled into your shooting position. Stealth is everything.

# About Bowfishing

Bowfishing doesn't refer to a species, and is not really fishing at all, but a hunt for fish. Although the word "fishing" is in the sport's name, bowfishing is more similar to small game hunting than to fishing. It is the pursuit of fish with a bow and arrow. This is a legal method to pursue nongame fish, including bluegill, green sunfish, carp, carpsuckers, suckers, buffalo, drum, gar, and all other species not defined as game fish or listed as endangered in the Wildlife Code of Missouri. Bowfishing offers an exciting way to pursue these fish that typically draw little interest.

A fishing license is needed to bowfish. Bowfishing is quite different in that fish are first spotted and then shot at with a bow or crossbow. The bow or crossbow shoots arrows attached to a line so that the fish can be retrieved after they're pierced. Due to the water's refraction, connecting with a fish is harder than you might think. The deeper the fish is in the water, the more refracted it is by the water. The angler must compensate for this refraction, making the shot more difficult.

Fish can be successfully pursued during the day, but many people bowfish at night when fish are often more active and more visible than in the daylight. Old-timers used small, wood-burning fires in baskets hanging over a boat's bow to illuminate the water at night. Today, halogen or LED lights powered by a gas generator are commonly used. Bowfishers without boats use handheld lights along the banks or other vantage points. Moonlight alone does not provide sufficient light for locating and properly identifying fish.

The moon phase and water clarity play an important role in bowfishing. During a full moon, fish are typically more skittish. The same goes for water clarity – the clearer the water, the more difficult it can be to get close to the fish.



2019-2020  
Small Game Hunting Prospects

# BOWFISHING



## Getting Started

Nearly any bow can be rigged for bowfishing. If you do not already have a bow, you should be able to find several economical options at any of your local sporting goods dealers that sell bows.

Staying on the move and covering a lot of water is generally more successful than staying in one spot. Cautiously closing the distance is the key to getting a shot, but fish can appear and disappear from anywhere in the water at any time. The action can be quite unpredictable to say the least!



**Bluegill**



**Green Sunfish**

## Tips and Tricks

If your mobility is restricted, try chumming the water with soured corn, canned corn, grain and molasses pellets, dog food, or cereal to encourage fish to come to you.

The eastern cottontail is the most common of Missouri's two rabbit species. Cottontails are well distributed throughout the state, and they provide fun, challenging hunting opportunities to novice and experienced hunters alike. Rabbit numbers have been declining since the mid-1950's due to loss of habitat. However, they can still be found in all 114 of Missouri's counties.

## Ingredients to Quality Habitat

Good cottontail habitat includes well-distributed protective cover, a good year-round food supply, and a safe place for nesting. Protective cover for rabbits can consist of clumps of low-growing native shrubs, loosely constructed brush piles or areas of edge feathering, brushy fencerows, and briar patches. Protective cover should be adjacent to, or in close proximity to, nesting and feeding areas such as lightly grazed pastures, old fields, hay fields, CRP plantings, and crop fields. Preferred foods include grasses, wheat, and clovers, especially white clover.

Cottontails and bobwhite quail have very similar habitat requirements, although cottontails are less sensitive to vegetation thickness.

Where good protective cover and diverse grassland cover exists, so to do cottontail rabbits. Abundant protective cover not only shelters rabbits from would be predators but can also serve as a critical food source during heavy snow cover. They will eat buds, twigs, bark, and sprouts to survive.



*Good rabbit habitat with ample brush, diverse herbaceous cover and annual crop field.*

By far, the number one factor influencing rabbit populations, like most small game, is the availability of suitable habitat. Without it they simply cannot exist. Though it may seem surprising, heavy hunting pressure does not greatly affect rabbit populations. Rabbits, like most small game, have high annual mortality whether they are hunted or not. If rabbits are not hunted, their populations are usually affected by other factors such as parasites, disease, or predators.



# Rabbits and Grassland Restoration

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) in partnership with the University of Central Missouri, is studying the response of cottontail rabbits to grassland restoration practices on two conservation areas in western Missouri.

Native grasslands are one of the most imperiled habitat types in North America and around the world. As a result, there are many grassland and shrubland songbirds and native insect populations declining at alarming rates. The MDC has ramped up grassland restoration efforts on both public and private lands in the last decade and is evaluating these management efforts on cottontail rabbit populations.

Native grassland development is critical for the stabilization and restoration of many of Missouri's wildlife species in trouble, including the bobwhite quail. If the cottontail rabbit can definitively be added to the list of species that benefit directly from these management efforts it will not only help to strengthen the importance of creating diverse native grassland habitat, but the small game program as well.



*UCM graduate students getting ready to tag and release a cottontail rabbit caught on grassland restoration site.*



# Conservation Areas

The Conservation Department areas, listed by region, in the following table represent areas that offer the most likely opportunity to encounter and harvest the small game species indicated by an "x". The areas listed in the table do not represent all the Department areas where small game hunting is allowed. To find additional conservation areas where small game hunting is allowed and specific area regulations, visit [mdc.mo.gov/atlas](http://mdc.mo.gov/atlas).

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
<b>Northwest</b>												
Agency CA						X						
Aspinwall Bend**		X			X				X		X	
Bagley (Peter and John) Woods CA						X						
Bee Creek CA		X				X						
Belcher Branch Lake CA		X				X						
Bilby Ranch Lake CA*	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	
Bluffwoods CA						X				X		
Bluffwoods CA - Goodell Mem Annex						X				X		
Bonanza CA		X	X			X			X		X	
Brickyard Hill CA		X				X			X			
Brown (Bob) CA**		X	X		X		X		X	X		X
Bunch Hollow CA	X	X	X			X			X			
Chloe Lowry Marsh NA		X				X						
Christie (James D) CA		X	X		X	X						
Corning CA**		X	X		X							
Crooked River CA	X	X	X			X		X	X		X	
Dalton Bottoms Access		X										
Davis (The Eva N) Mem CA		X	X		X	X						
Denton (Andy) Access		X				X						
Deroin Bend CA**		X	X		X				X		X	
DuPree (Arthur) Mem CA		X				X						
Elam Bend CA		X	X			X		X				
Elrod Mill Access		X				X						
Eugene O'Keefe CA		X				X						
Fountain Grove CA**	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Gallatin CA		X	X			X			X		X	
Grand Pass CA**	X	X		X		X	X		X			X
Grand Trace CA		X	X			X						
Hadorn Bridge Access		X				X						
Happy Holler Lake CA		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Hardin CA						X		X				

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Helton (The Wayne) Mem WA		X	X	X	X						X	
Holmes Bend Access		X				X						
Honey Creek CA		X				X			X			
King Lake CA		X	X	X	X		X					X
Kneib (Wilfrid V and Anna C) Mem CA		X										
Lake Paho CA		X	X		X	X						
Little Compton Lake CA		X				X						X
Little Tarkio Prairie		X										
Logan (Caroline Sheridan) Mem WA						X						
Lower Hamburg Bend CA**		X				X					X	X
McClure CA		X				X						
McCormack (Jamerson C) CA						X						
McGee Family CA		X	X			X						
McKinny CA						X						
Mockingbird Hill Access						X						
Monkey Mountain CA						X						
Mussel Fork CA		X	X			X			X		X	
Nishnabotna CA**		X										
Nodaway County CL		X	X									X
Nodaway Valley CA**	X	X	X	X	X		X		X			X
Pigeon Hill CA						X			X	X		
Pony Express Lake CA*	X	X	X	X	X	X				X		X
Poosey CA		X	X	X		X			X			
Price Bridge Access						X						
Punkin Center Access						X						
Riverbreaks CA		X				X			X		X	
Rush Bottoms CA**		X	X		X	X			X			
Schifferdecker (W L) Mem CA	X	X		X		X	X	X				
Seat (Emmett and Leah) Mem CA		X	X		X	X			X	X		
Sowards Ford Access						X						
Star School Hill Prairie CA						X						
Sterling Price CL												X
Sunbridge Hills CA						X						
Tarkio Prairie CA		X	X								X	
Thurnau (H F) CA**		X	X									

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
VanDyke (Russell B, Hazel S and Arnold L) CA		X	X			X						
Wagner (Frank E) CA			X			X						
Wiese (Helen K) CA		X	X			X						
Wolf Creek Bend CA**		X										
Worth County CL		X										X
Worthwine Island CA		X				X			X	X		
Yellow Creek CA						X						
<b>Northeast</b>												
Anderson (Edward) CA						X			X			
Arrow-Wood CA						X			X			
Atlanta CA		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Bee Hollow CA		X		X		X	X	X	X		X	
Big Creek CA						X						
Black Hawk Access		X				X			X		X	
Callahan Mound Access		X				X		X	X			
Cedar Bluff Access						X		X	X		X	
Clark CA						X			X			
Dark Hollow NA						X						
Deer Ridge CA	X		X	X		X		X	X		X	
Dodd Access									x			x
Dunn Ford Access		X	X			X		X	X		X	
Dupont Reservation CA				X		X			X			X
Elmslie Mem CA						X						
Ewing (Ella) Lake CA		X		X		X						X
Fox Valley Lake CA	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	
Frost Island CA**	X		X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Griffiths Mem CA		X	X	X		X			X		x	
Heath (Charlie) Mem CA						X	X	X	X			
Hidden Hollow CA		X				X		X	X	X	X	
Hunnewell Lake CA		X	X			X				X	X	
Indian Hills CA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
LaBelle Lake CA	X	X	X	X						X	X	
Locust Creek CA	X	X	X		X			X				
Long Branch Lake ML		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
McPike Access		X				X						
Mineral Hills CA	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Montgomery Woods CA						X		X				
Morris Prairie CA		X										

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Mound View Access						X						
Neeper CA						X			X			
Pin Oak CA						X			X			
Ranacker CA		X	X			X			X		X	
Rebel's Cove CA	X			X					X			
Redman CA		X	X		X							
Rose Pond CA**			X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Sears CL						X						
Sever (Henry) Lake CA		X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X
Shanks (Ted) CA**		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Shoemaker CA		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Soulard Access				X					X			
Sugar Creek CA						X		X	X	X	X	
Sunnyside School Access						X			X			
Thomas Hill Reservoir CA		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Tolona Access						X			X		X	
Union Ridge CA		X	X		X			X			X	
White Oak Bend Access						X			X			
William E. Crawford C.A.		X				X			X		X	
Willingham (Ruby Clark) Mem WA						X			X		X	
Woodlawn Access		X				X		X	X			
Wyaconda Crossing CA						X			X			
<b>Kansas City</b>												
Amarugia Highlands CA		X	X	X		X			X		X	
Balltown Access						X			X		X	
Baltimore Bend CA				X		X			X		X	
Big Buffalo Creek CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Birdsong CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Blackjack Access						X			X	X	X	
Brickley Hollow CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Bridger (Jim) Urban CA		X							x		x	
Bristow CA		X	X			X			X	X		
Bruns Tract		X	X								X	
Bryson's Hope CA		X	X								X	
Cephas Ford Access				X		X		X	X	X	X	
Chapel View Prairie CA		X	X								X	

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Cooley Lake CA**				X		X			X		X	X
Dave Rock CA		X				X			X	X		
Dorsett Hill Prairie CA		X	X			X			x		x	
Douglas Branch CA				X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Edmonson Access		X							X		X	
Ferguson-Herold CA						X				X		
Fewel (Connor O) CA		X	X	X		X			X			
Flight Lake CA				X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Four Rivers CA (August A Busch Jr. Memorial Wetlands)**		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gama Grass Prairie CA		X	X					X	X	X	X	
Grandfather Prairie CA			X	X							X	X
Granny's Acres CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Grove (Cecil G) Mem CA						X			X			
Harmony Mission Lake CA*	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Hartwell CA			X	X								X
Hazel Hill Lake			X	X								X
Hi Lonesome Prairie CA			X									X
Ionia Ridge CA			X				X					X
Kahrs-Boger Park			X							X		X
Kearn (J N Turkey) Mem WA			X	X			X					X
Kearn (W R) Mem CA			X	X								
Kendzora (Anthony and Beatrice) CA		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kings Prairie Access		X		X		X			X	X	X	
La Due Bottoms CA						X			X	X	X	
Liberty Bend CA												X
Linscomb WA		X	X			X			X	X		
Little Bean Marsh CA**		X										
Lone Jack Lake CA		X		X		X			X		X	
Lost Valley Fish Hatchery		X				X				X	X	
Maple Leaf Lake CA		X	X	X						X	X	
Marshall (Dr Frederick) CA		X				X			X			
Montrose CA**		X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Mora CA			X	X	X							
Old Town Access				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Osage Prairie CA		X	X			X						
Paint Brush Prairie CA		X	X							X		
Park (Guy B) CA*	X	X				X			X	X	X	
Peabody CA*		X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Perry (Ralph and Martha) Mem CA**				X	X			X	X	X	X	
Platte Falls CA**	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Poague (Haysler A) CA				X		X			X			
Reed (James A) Mem WA*	X	X		X		X				X		
Ripgut Prairie NA				X			X		X	X	X	
Schell-Osage CA**		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Settle's Ford CA**		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sni-A-Bar CA									X			X
Taberville Prairie CA		X	X							X		
Truman Reservoir ML (Bethlehem)*		X	X			X			X	X	X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Brownington)		X				X			X			
Truman Reservoir ML (Brush Creek)		X				X			X		X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Cedar Creek)						X			X		X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Deepwater Creek)		X	X			X			X	X	X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Gallinipper Creek)		X				X			X			
Truman Reservoir ML (Gouge Eye)		X				X		X	X		X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Grand River Bottoms)		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Leesville)						X			X			
Truman Reservoir ML (Little Pomme de Terre)		X				X			X	X		
Truman Reservoir ML (Little Tebo Creek)		X				X			X	X	X	
Truman Reservoir ML (Sac Osage)		X	X			X			X	X		
Truman Reservoir ML (Salt Creek)		X				X			X	X		
Truman Reservoir ML (Tebo Islands)						X						
Truman Reservoir ML (Upper Tebo Creek)		X	X			X			X	X	X	

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Truman Reservoir ML (Valhalla)		X				X			X			
Truman Reservoir ML (Weaubleau Creek)		X				X			X	X		
Urich CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Wah'Kon-Tah Prairie (portion north of Highway 82)		X	X									
<b>Central</b>												
Ben Branch Lake CA				X								
Bennitt (Rudolf) CA						X			X		X	
Blind Pony Lake CA	X	X	X	X							X	
Blue Lick CA				X								
Burnt Mill Cave CA						X			X		X	
Canaan CA		X				X			X		X	
Carpenter Mem CA						X						
Church Farm CA**												
Clifty Creek CA						X						
Clifty Creek NA						X						
Cooper Hill CA	X					X						
Danville CA		X				X						
Davisdale CA*	X	X				X			X		X	
Diana Bend CA**							X			X		
Diggs (Marshall I) CA		X	X			X		X				
Eagle Bluffs CA**				X			X				X	X
Earthquake Hollow CA						X						
Fiery Fork CA						X						
Franklin Island CA**									X	X		
Grand Bluffs CA						X						
Hart Creek CA						X						
Hungry Mother CA						X		X				
Lamine River CA*		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Lick Creek CA						X						
Loutre Lick Access				X				X				
Madden Ford Access									X			
Manito Lake CA		X	X								X	
Marion Bottoms CA								X		X		
Marshall Junction CA		X				X		X	X			
Moniteau Creek CA		X						X	X			
Moore's Mill Access								X				
Northcutt (Clarence L) Mem CA								X				
Painted Rock CA						X						
Plowboy Bend CA**										X		

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Prairie Home CA		X		X		X		X	X		X	
Reform CA*	X	X				X			X	X	X	
Rinquelin Trail Lake CA						X						
Rocky Fork Lakes CA											X	
Saline Valley CA				X		X		X		X	X	
Scrivner Road CA						X			X			
Smith (Roger V and Viola Wachal) CA						X						
Smoky Waters CA								X				
Spring Creek Gap CA						X					X	
Tate Island CA										X		
Three Creeks CA						X						
Toronto Springs CA		X							X	X		
Tri-City CL						X						
Whetstone Creek CA*	X	X	X	X					X			
White (Robert M II) CA		X	X			X					X	
<b>St. Louis</b>												
Anderson (John N and Melba S) Mem CA		X		X		X			X		X	
Blue Springs Creek CA		X	X	X		X			X		X	
Busch (August A) Mem CA*	X	X				X			X	X	X	
Catawissa CA				X		X						X
Columbia Bottom CA**						X						
Crooked Creek CA						X			X			
Daniel Boone CA						X			X		X	
Glassberg (Myron and Sonya) Family CA						X						
Howell Island CA						X			X		X	
Huzzah CA		X		X		X			X		X	
Keysville Towersite				X		X			X		X	
LaBarque Creek CA						X			X			
Leach (B K) Mem CA**				X			X					X
Little Indian Creek CA		X				X			X			
Little Lost Creek CA						X			X	X	X	
Logan (William R) CA*	X	X										
Long Ridge CA		X		X		X			X		X	
Marais Temps Clair CA**	X			X								X
Meramec CA						X			X			

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Meramec CA - Heyne (Arthur G) Mem Annex						X			X			
Merrill Horse Access						X						
Pacific Palisades CA*	X					X						
Pea Ridge CA		X				X			X			
Reifsnider (Frank, Emma Elizabeth and Edna) SF						X			X		X	
Sizemore ( Pearl G and John J) Mem CA						X			X		X	
Valley View Glades NA						X						
Victoria Glades CA						X						
Weldon Spring CA*		X				X			X	X	X	
White (William G and Erma Parke) Mem WA*	X	X										
Young CA		X				X						
<b>Southwest</b>												
Barclay CA		X	X	X		X						
Bear Creek CA						X						
Bethel Prairie CA		X	X	X		X						
Bluff Springs CA						X			X			
Bois D'Arc CA*	X	X	X	X		X				X	X	
Boston Ferry CA		X				X			X			
Brush Creek CA		X				X			X			
Buffalo Hills NA						X						
Buffalo Wallow Prairie CA		X	X			X			X			
Bushwhacker Lake CA		X	X	X		X			X	X	X	
Busiek SF and WA						X			X		X	
Capps Creek CA	X	X		X		X			X	X		
Charity Access		X		X		X						
Clear Creek CA		X	X	X		X			X		X	
Coffin Cave CA						X						
Compton Hollow CA		X				X			X	X		
Comstock Prairie CA		X	X									
Corry Flatrocks CA						X						
Cross Timbers Access		X				X			X		X	
Davis (The Lester R) Mem Forest						X						
Diamond Grove Prairie CA		X									X	
Dorris Creek Prairie CA		X	X	X							X	

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Drywood CA		X	X	X		X			X		X	
Fiddlers Ford Access		X		X		X			X			
Flag Spring CA		X				X			X			
Fort Crowder CA		X				X			X		X	
Goodman Towersite						X						
Goose Creek CA		X		X		X						
Hayes Spring CA		X				X						
Holland SF		X				X						
Hollister Towersite		X				X						
Huckleberry Ridge CA						X			X			
Indigo Prairie CA		X										
Jessie Hollow CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Kerr (H L) Access				X								X
Kickapoo Prairie CA		X										
Lanagan Towersite						X						
Lawson (Mary) CA		X				X						
Lead Mine CA		X		X		X		X	X	X		
Lewis (The) Family, Dean, Anna Mae and David D. Lewis Mem CA		X				X						
Little Sac Woods CA		X		X		X			X			
Monegaw Prairie CA		X	X									
Mo-No-I Prairie CA		X	X									
Mon-Shon Prairie CA		X	X									
Mule Shoe CA		X		X		X		X	X	X		
Murphy (John F) Mem SF and WA		X	X			X			X			
Niangua CA						X			X			
Osage Fork CA						X						
Pa Sole Prairie CA		X	X									
Paris Springs Access				X		X			X	X		
Phenix Access		X		X		X			X			
Pilot Knob CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Pleasant Hope CA		X		X		X			X			
Pomme De Terre Lake ML		X	X	X		X						
Powell Towersite						X						
Providence Prairie CA		X	X					X	X	X	X	
Rader Access		X				X			X	X		
Redwing Prairie CA		X	X									
Risch (Edward B and Marie O) CA		X	X			X						
Rocky Barrens CA		X										
Sare (Dale) CA						X			X			

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
* = non-toxic shot required for doves; ** = non-toxic shot required for all species.												
Sentinel CA		X				X			X			
Shawnee Trail CA	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	
Shelton (Wade and June) Mem CA		X	X								X	
Sky Prairie CA		X	X									
Sloan (Dr O E and Eloise) CA	X	X	X						X			
Stockton Lake ML	X	X		X		X			X	X	X	X
Stony Point Prairie CA		X	X					X			X	
Talbot (Robert E) CA*	X	X	X	X		X			X		X	
Tipton Ford Access		X				X						
Treaty Line Prairie CA		X	X									
Truman Reservoir ML (Cross Timbers)		X		X		X			X			
Turkey Creek CA						X			X			
Twenty-Five Mile Prairie CA		X	X								X	
Williams Ford Access						X						
Wire Road CA		X		X		X		X	X	X		
<b>Ozark</b>												
Allen (Wilbur) Mem CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Angeline CA		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Austin CL		X				X			X	X		
Barn Hollow NA		X		X		X			X	X		
Barnes (P F) CA		X	X			X						
Beaver Creek CA		X				X						
Birch Creek CA						X						
Bohigian CA		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Brown (Gerhild and Graham) CA		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Bull Shoals Lake ML		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Buzzard Bluff Access		X				X						
Caney Mountain CA		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Carter Creek CA						X						
Cedar Gap CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Cedar Grove CA						X						
Clement (R F) Mem Forest and WA						X			X	X		
Cover (Dan and Maureen) Mem WA		X	X					X			X	
Davidson (Carrick W) - Robert G Paris WA		X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Davis (Dean) CA		X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Dixon Towersite						X						
Drury-Mincy CA		X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
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Eck (Peter A) CA						X			X			
Fort Leonard Wood Towersite						X						
Fourche Creek CA		X										
Fuson (John Alva, MD) CA		X	X			X			X	X	X	
Gasconade Hills CA						X						
Gist Ranch CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Grundy Mem WA		X									X	
Hemenway CA		X										
Horseshoe Bend NA				X								
Hunter Towersite						X						
Indian Trail CA		X		X		X			X	X	X	
Little Black CA		X		X								
Little Prairie CA		X		X								
Massengill (Richard) CA		X										
Midvale CA						X						
Montauk Towersite						X						
Mountain View Towersite		X				X						
Mudpuppy CA				X		X					X	
Norfork Lake ML		X		X					X	X	X	X
Odin Access		X				X						
Patrick Bridge Access				X								
Peck Ranch CA						X			X		X	
Piney River Narrows NA				X								
Rippee CA		X				X				X	X	
Rocky Creek CA		X	X			X		X	X	X	X	
Rosati Towersite						X						
Roubidoux Creek CA				X					X			
Sand Pond CA		X				X						
Shannon Ranch CA						X			X		X	
Shawnee Mac Lakes CA				X		X				X	X	
Short Bend Access						X						
Sims Valley CL				X								
Sunklands CA				X		X		X	X	X	X	
Tecumseh Towersite						X						
Timber Knob Towersite						X						
Tingler Prairie CA			X			X				X		
Vanderhoef (Archie and Gracie) Mem SF			X	X		X						
Vera Cruz Access		X										

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
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Warm Fork CA			X	X						X	X	
White (George O) SF Nursery		X	X			X						
White Ranch CA						X			X	X	X	
White River Trace CA			X			X		X	X	X	X	
Woods (Woodson K) Mem CA				X		X			X	X	X	
<b>Southeast</b>												
Amidon Mem CA						X			X		X	
Apple Creek CA		X		X		X			X		X	
Aquilla Access		X				X		X				
Big Cane CA		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Bismarck CA						X			X		X	
Black Island CA (DeSoto Unit)		X				X			X			
Black Island CA (Gayoso Bend Unit)**		X				X						
Black Island CA (Stephen C Bradford Unit)		X					X					
Black Island CA (Wolf Bayou Unit)		X				X						
Blue Spring Branch CA			X									
Buford Mountain CA						X			X		X	
Cape LaCroix Bluffs CA						X						
Carmichael (Mac and Zelma) SF		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Cash (Ben) Mem CA		X				X			X			
Cash (Ben) Mem CA - Largent Annex		X				X			X			
Castor River CA						X			X		X	
Centerville Access						X			X			
Chalk Bluff Trail Access		X		X				X	X	X	X	
Clearwater CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Clearwater Lake ML		X				X						
Clubb Creek CA						X			X		X	
Coldwater Access		X				X						
Coldwater CA		X				X			X		X	
Coon Island CA**		X				X	X		X			
Corkwood CA		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Crowleys Ridge CA*	X	X	X	X		X	X					
Current River CA						X			X	X	X	
Dan River Access		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Donaldson Point CA		X				X			X		X	

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
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Duck Creek CA**		X					X		X	X		
Duck Creek CA (Dark Cypress Swamp Unit)**		X					X		X	X		
Duck Creek CA (Greenbrier Unit)**		X				X		X	X	X		
Flatwoods CA						X						
Frisbee Cutoff Access		X										
Funk Mem SF and WA				X		X			X		X	
General Watkins CA						X			X		X	
Gipsy Towersite						X						
Girvin (John L and Georgia) CA		X				X			X			
Grassy Towersite						X						
Graves Mountain CA						X			X		X	
Hammer (Bradley A) Mem CA		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Hawn Access						X		X				
Holly Ridge CA		X				X			X		X	
Hornersville Swamp CA						X			X	X		
Horton Farm Conservation Area		X				X			X		X	
Iron Bridge Access						X						
Ketcherside Mountain CA						X			X		X	
Knob Lick Towersite						X			X			
Lake Girardeau CA						X			X		X	
Lesterville Access						X			X			
Little River CA**	X						X					
Little Whitewater CA						X			X		X	
Logan Creek CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Magnolia Hollow CA		X				X			X		X	
Maintz Wildlife Preserve*	X	X	X	X				X				
Maple Flats Access						X						
Marquand Access		X							X		X	
Millstream Gardens CA		X				X			X		X	
Oak Ridge CA		X				X			X			
Old Plantation Access		X				X		X				
Otter Slough CA**		X										
Poplar Bluff CA		X		X		X			X	X	X	
Red Rock Landing CA						X			X		X	
Riverside CA		X				X			X		X	
Sand Prairie CA		X	X									

Area Name	Dove	Rabbit	Quail	Frog	Pheasant	Squirrel	Rails and Snipe	Woodcock	Raccoon	Crow	Predators	Bow-fishing
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Sank CA						X			X			
Seven Island CA						X				X		
Seventy-Six CA						X			X		X	
Sun (Stephen J) CA		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Sweetgum Access		X							X	X		
Swift Ditch Access		X	X			X						
Ten Mile Pond CA**	X			X			X		X			
Thompson Ford Access						X			X		X	
Tywappity Towersite						X						
University Forest CA		X				X			X	X	X	
Wappapello Lake ML		X				X						
Warbler Woods CA						X						
Wilhelmina CA		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
Windy Bar Island CA						X						
Yokum School CA		X				X			X	X	X	



## CONTACT AND CONNECT WITH US

### Conservation Headquarters

573-751-4115

### Central Regional Office

573-815-7900

### Kansas City Regional Office

816-622-0900

### Northeast Regional Office

660-785-2420

### Northwest Regional Office

816-271-3100



### Ozark Regional Office

417-256-7161

### Southeast Regional Office

573-290-5730

### Southwest Regional Office

417-895-6880

### St. Louis Regional Office

636-441-4554



## Keep Game Separate or Identifiable

Small game hunting in Missouri can be fast and furious at times and is a good way to spend quality time with friends and family. When hunting with other people, however, be sure to keep your harvested game separate from one another's, or mark them in some way if they're placed in a common pile so that they're identifiable as yours. Regulations require that each hunter keep his or her game separate or identifiable from those harvested by others. Following this rule helps our Conservation Agents better serve hunters and protect our wildlife resources.



## Best of luck and happy hunting!